## UNAUTHORISED CLEARANCE OF FOREST AND REMOVAL OF TIMBERS

157. SRI B. V. KAKKILAYA (Buntwal).—

Will the Minister for Agriculture and Forest be pleased to state :—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that vast areas of reserve forest were cleared unauthorisedly and the timber removed with the connivance of the officers in the Balpa coupe of Panja Range, Kuntur coupe of Sullia Range and Kopatmala near Bhagamandala between 1967 and 1970 ;

(*b*) if so, the extent of forest so cleared in each of the above coupes and the quantity and value of timber so removed ;

(*c*) whether these matters were brought to the notice of the Government as well as the vigilance commission ;

(*d*) if so, action if any taken by them in each case and when ;

(*e*) the action if any taken by the present Goverament in this matter ?

SRI K. H. PATIL (Minister for Agriculture and Forests).—

(*a*) Yes. This had happened in the case of Balpa coupe of Panja Range and Kuntur coupe of Sullia Range during 1969-70.

There is no such case at Kopatmala near Bhagamandala.

(*b*)—

| Sl. No. | Name of the Coupe | Notified area acres | Area cleared acres. | Excess area cleared acres. | Quantity including that from excess area removed | Approximate value at Seigniorage rates. Rs. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Balpa Coupe-I | 247.70 | 604.30 | 356.60 | 6,85,760.5 cft. of timber and 2216 lorry load of fire-wood. | 14 lakhs |
| 2. | Kuntur coupe-XXV | 121.00 | 316.00 | 195.00 | 2,32,404.20 cft. of timber and 1546 lorry loads of firewood. | 6,30,000 |

(SRI K. H. PATIL)

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) The officers/officials concerned have been kept under suspension during June and July 1972 and enquiry is under progress.

(*e*) Does not arise in view of the reply to clause (*b*) above.

## TRANSFER OF COMMERCIAL TAX OFFICERS

165. SRI B G. BANAKAR (Hirekerur).—

Will the Minister for Finance be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the number and names of Commercial Tax Officers working in Bangalore for more than 5 years in one or the other Revenue Circles ;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that some of the Commercial Tax Officers who are working in Bangalore for a period less than 4 years have been transferred from Bangalore to other distant places ;

(*c*) if so, the number and name of such officers who are transferred from Bangalore City and the reasons for such transfers ;

(*d*) the reasons for not transferring some Officers who are in Bangalore City for more than 4 years ?

SRI M. Y. GHORPADE,— (Minister for Finance)

(*a*) Number : Four.

Names: 1 Smt, A. K. Bengeri.
2 Sri C. R. Srinivasa Murthy
3 Sri M. Devarakondappa.
4 Sri G. M. Mustafa

(*b*) Yes. Two officers who had not completed four years stay have been transferred.

(*c*).—

| Number | Names | Reasons for transfers |
|---|---|---|
| Two | 1 Sri H. N. Ramachandra | They had completed over 3 years of stay in Bangalore. |
| | 2 Sri B. B. Naik | |

(*d*) Their services in their present charges are considered necessary in the interest of public service,